TPATENT APPLICATION

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Attorney

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Applicant:

George Kataoka

Invention:

FILTER DEVICE FOR COFFEE OR THE

LIKE

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on <u>DECEMBER 13, 2001</u>

Michelle L Neal

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box: Patent Application

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 as follows:

- -4. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said body part has an upper end edge connected to a lower end of said open frame and a lower end edge connected to an upper end of said blind-end frame, said upper and lower end edges being respectively extended along inner peripheral faces of said open frame and

said blind-end frame, and attached to said inner peripheral faces in a face to face contact to be integral therewith.--

- -5. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said body part has an upper end edge connected to a lower end of said open frame and a lower end edge connected to an upper end of said blind-end frame, said upper and lower end edges being respectively extended along outer peripheral faces of said open frame and said blind-end frame, and attached to said outer peripheral faces in a face to face contact to be integral therewith, whereby said body part covers whole outer peripheral faces of said open frame and said blind-end frame.- -
- -6. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said blind-end frame includes a cup holding frame having predetermined rigidity which is formed at a circumferential edge of a bottom of said blind-end frame and extended downwardly from said bottom.- -
- --8. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said blind-end frame is provided with a hole in a bottom, through which said store room is hung down, and a skirt extending downwardly along an open edge of said hole and surrounding an outer peripheral face of an upper part of said store room in a face to face contact thereby to hold it water-tightly.--
- -9. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said open frame and said blind-end frame are formed of thick paper having predeter-

mined rigidity, and said body part is formed of thin paper having predetermined rigidity and flexibility, which is deformable and has shape retaining ability.--

--10. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said open frame and said blind-end frame are formed of non-woven fabric having predetermined rigidity, and said body part is formed of non-woven fabric having predetermined rigidity and flexibility, which is deformable and has shape retaining ability.--

• • • R E M A R K S • • •

By the present Preliminary Amendment, the claims have been amended to delete the need for multiple dependency.

Care has been taken so as to avoid the addition of new matter in the claims.

Entry of the present Preliminary Amendment prior to the examination of the application is respectfully requested.

In the event Applicants have overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicants hereby petition therefor and authorize that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 02-0385, Baker & Daniels.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Changes Made to Claims

Claim 1 remains unchanged.

Claim 2 remains unchanged.

Claim 3 remains unchanged.

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said body part has an upper end edge connected to a lower end of said open frame and a lower end edge connected to an upper end of said blind-end frame, said upper and lower end edges being respectively extended along inner peripheral faces of said open frame and said blind-end frame, and attached to said inner peripheral faces in a face to face contact to be integral therewith.

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

5. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein said body part has an upper end edge connected to a lower end of said open frame and a lower end edge connected to an upper end of said blind-end frame, said upper and lower end edges being respectively extended along outer peripheral faces of said open frame and said blind-end frame, and attached to said outer peripheral faces in a face to face contact to be

integral therewith, whereby said body part covers whole outer peripheral faces of said open frame and said blind-end frame.

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said blind-end frame includes a cup holding frame having predetermined rigidity which is formed at a circumferential edge of a bottom of said blind-end frame and extended downwardly from said bottom.

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

Claim 8 has been amended as follows:

8. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said blind-end frame is provided with a hole in a bottom, through which said store room is hung down, and a skirt extending downwardly along an open edge of said hole and surrounding an outer peripheral face of an upper part of said store room in a face to face contact thereby to hold it water-tightly.

Claim 9has been amended as follows:

9. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said open frame and said blind-end frame are formed of thick paper having predetermined rigidity, and said body part is formed of thin paper having predetermined rigidity and flexibility, which is deformable and has shape retaining ability.

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. (Amended) The filter device as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said open frame and said blind-end frame are formed of non-woven fabric having predetermined rigidity, and said body part is formed of non-woven fabric having predetermined rigidity and flexibility, which is deformable and has shape retaining ability.